

Snake Bytes

October 2, 2018

Class officer elections and more...



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Words from the three Regional Prez's

It's hard to believe that almost two years has passed since the current slate of

Class Officers was elected. As we all know, time marches on, whether we are ready or not! The three of us have enjoyed serving you as your Regional Class Presidents. Most of all, we have enjoyed meeting all of the great Viper sailors at regattas across North America, Australia, and around the world.

Our constitution says that we, the executive members, serve for 2 years and that an election must be held between September 31st and December 31st in the last year of our term.

Photo L to R: Graeme Monkhouse (Aus), Steve Chapman (NA), Ian Nicholson (Eur)



As the International AGM was held in February in Perth and the North American Regional AGM happened during July in Kingston at the North American Championship, before our terms ended, we will carry out an electronic vote for the election of officers in mid-December.

If you would like to volunteer or nominate a member to one of the positions, we are accepting nominations from the virtual floor for any Regional position noted [HERE](#).

To make such a nomination please contact the Class Administrator, [Buttons Padin](#). We will keep nominations open through October 15 and then publish the slate of proposed executive committee.

Our class is an all-volunteer organization, so your participation is a part of what we are all about.

Have fun, sail fast!

Steve Chapman, Graeme Monkhouse, Ian Nicholson

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Viper Website to Relaunch Soon

A team of Viper Class members, led by **Fletcher Boland**, have been working diligently to update the Viper 640 website: www.viper640.org. As with many organizations' websites, the lesser-used content can get stale and much of it has been updated if not totally replaced.

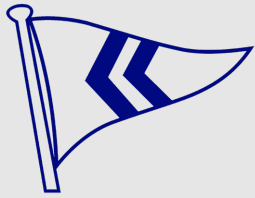
All the data you always got from the site will still be available to you and the overall look will be similar, however, the new site will now download faster, making your time on the Class' site more productive and enjoyable.

Transition to the new site has a target date of late October.

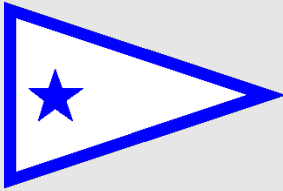
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Upcoming Regattas

October 13-14 - Viper 640 New England

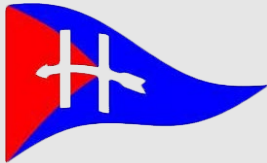


Championship, Noroton Yacht Club, Darien, CT - Currently 25 boats entered. This will be a great regatta. Information and online registration [HERE](#).

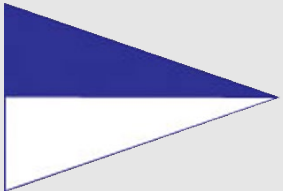


October 27-28 - Sail Fremantle

Regatta, Fremantle Sailing Club, Fremantle, WA. Information and online registration [HERE](#).



November 3-4 - Viper 640 Mid-Atlantic Championship, part of the Hampton Fall Fling at Hampton (VA) Yacht Club. Information and online registration [HERE](#).



November 17-18 - ABYC Turkey Day

Regatta, Alamitos Bay Yacht Club. This has become a classic SoCal regatta. Information and online registration [HERE](#).

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Sarasota Winter Circuit 2018-19



No better reason to go to Florida during December, January, and February. The Sarasota Viper Winter Circuit has proven to be a "must sail" series. Even if you can't do all three weekends, or even if you go to Sarasota to crew for someone else, just be there!

#1 December 15-16

#2 January 19-20

#3 February 9-10

Information and online registration [HERE](#).

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Vipers returning to Miami in 2019 as part of the Bacardi Cup

Invitational Regatta



After a year's absence, the Viper 640 Class will be resuming its annual winter migration to Miami for some spectacular winter sailing. The Vipers will now be racing as part of the Bacardi Invitational Regatta being hosted by our long-term Bacardi friend **Eddie Cutillas** and run by **Sara Zanobini** and **Mark Pincus** who ran former Viper Miami events.

We will again be launching out of the US Sailing Center Miami, racing the Viper Winter Cup, "Scorching" across the Bay on Tuesday for lunch, and racing out of Coral Reef Yacht Club for the Bacardi (think Pina Colodas). More information is to follow, but here's the schedule:

Sunday-Monday, March 3-4, Viper Winter Cup – sailed out of US Sailing Center Miami

Tuesday, March 5, The Miami Scorch – race to/from and lunch in No Name Harbor

Wednesday – Saturday, March 6-9, Bacardi Invitational Regatta

Make reservation at US Sailing Center Miami – Contact **Pat Downey** at usscmiami@bellsouth.net / (305) 854-1058

Online registration for Winter Cup and Scorch will be available on Yacht Scoring in about two weeks.

Information and online registration for the Bacardi Cup Invitational Regatta is [HERE](#).

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2019 World Championship Update

Alamitos Bay Yacht Club in Long Beach, CA, looks forward to hosting the 2019 Viper 640 World Championship. In addition to four days of racing, a warm-up regatta is



planned at ABYC and a pre-regatta also in southern California is in the works. The objective there is to give sailors the most sailing bang for your travel bucks. Here's the schedule:

August 10-11, Saturday-Sunday – SoCal Pre-regatta
(details coming soon)

August 17-18, Saturday-Sunday – ABYC Worlds Warm-up Regatta

August 19, Monday – Registration and measurement

August 20-24, Tuesday-Saturday – Racing (with lay day scheduled for Thursday unless sailing is behind)

More information [HERE](#).

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Recent Regatta Results

Lake Champlain Viper Open - Vermont Voyage Validates Viper Verve



September 22-23, 2018 Once again, the Lake Champlain Yacht Club, in Shelburne, VT, welcomed the Viper 640 fleet for another fun weekend of racing and camaraderie. Twenty Viper teams duked it out on the water over seven races in quite variable conditions; the sailors also caught up over rigging, drinks, the LCYC fireplace, and the welcoming lawn in front of the club. [READ MORE](#)

Fishers Island Sound Viper Championship

1 island. 2 days. 3 parties. 6 family teams. 9 Vipers.

September 1-2, 2018 Perfect end of summer weather with breeze in the low to mid-teens for a 15 mile 'Round Fishers Island course on Saturday. It was a quick 2.5 hour clockwise lap around Fishers with a shifty, tactical first beat to the east end and a long tight spinnaker reach down the south side of the island to Race Rock. The reach had exactly the kind of conditions where vertical rudders earn their keep. [READ MORE](#)



Pacific Coast Championship goes to Jeff Grange



August 17-18 This year's Pacific Coast Championship did not disappoint. Conditions were perfect with the typical summer Southern California sea breeze. The fleet sailed in a variety of conditions from 10 to 18 kts. Racing was held outside in the ocean on Day One and inside the breakwater on Day Two. Both course locations made for exciting racing with lots of smiles in the Viper fleet. [READ MORE](#)

Great Lakes Championship

Sailing out of the idyllic Sarnia Yacht Club over two days, Brad Boston, with Mike Vigrass and Cole Constantineau won the 2018 Viper 640 Great Lake Championship. The next three spots on the leader board were hard fought, with a 3-point spread from 2nd to 4th place. [READ MORE](#)

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Tech Committee Testing New Stern Rudder Bridle



The Viper 640 Technical Committee has been hard at work this summer trying to sort out two issues facing Viper sailors around the globe. The first has to do with **keel box maintenance** and keel fitting into keel boxes with slots for keel wedges. You can read all about that [HERE](#).

The second addresses a situation many Viper helmsmen have faced—limited sweep of the tiller having moved the mainsheet bridle from midships aft—and the text the TC has recently approved.

It should be noted that the trend to move mainsheet bridles aft began when it became the additional purchases aft make it much easier for the helm to crank on enough leech tension without the assist of the middle person. This test addresses the unintended consequence of moving the bridle aft. You can read about that test [HERE](#).



The Technical Committee is chaired by **Dave Nickerson** and includes Rod **Beurteaux** (Australia), **Bob Matthews** (US), and **International Class Chairman Justin Scott**.

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Questions or comments?

Have a something to share? Have a question or comment? How about a great Viper photo? Contact Viper 640 Class Administrator Ed "Buttons" Padin at epadin@padesta.com.

Ed Padin: Viper 640 Class Administrator, Office: 914-834-8286 Address: 18 Normandy Lane, New Rochelle, NY 10804

Viper 640 Class Association Website: www.Viper640.org [Facebook](#) [Unsubscribe](#)